

Maintenance

AIR FORCE GOLD PROGRAM

AFI 21-123, 1 Feb 97, is supplemented as follows.

2. (Added) (ANG). Program Scope. Gold is a voluntary unit level program utilizing existing resources, which encourages innovation at all levels to achieve the objective of the program. Non-candidate items include class A and B explosives, nuclear items, special security items, and items under warranty.

2.1. Gold is established to maximize unit level repair of assets by utilizing innovative, authorized approaches towards repair; seek approval for repair not currently authorized; and work within the current system to produce high quality repair of government assets.

2.2. Gold subscribes to the Lead Wing concept. Identified Lead Wings represent specific ANG Mission Design Series (MDS) equipment and provide standardization throughout ANG units for repair initiatives. They serve as the single point of contact for Gold proposals and track the approval process of field units accomplishing repair. They also assume ANGRC authority for AFTO Forms 135.

2.3. A unit Gold Manager coordinates with their respective Lead Wing. Lead Wings coordinate with the Air Force Materiel Command Weapon System Single Manager Focal Points and other agencies as appropriate. Lead Wings maintain certification letters for all field units under their MDS, provide the field with a template for standardizing submittals and coordinate common issues with other MAJCOM Lead Wings. Finally, Lead Wings ensure product quality through customer feedback. Innovative repair techniques are encouraged. Units are not authorized to deviate from current technical orders, directives, Air Force Instructions, or policies.

3.1. **(Added) (ANG). Initiative Submission.** Anyone can submit an initiative which meets the Gold purpose. Where possible, work center supervisors should screen ideas prior to going to the unit Gold Program Manager. Ideas are submitted using established forms such as the AFTO Form 135, *Source, Maintenance, and Recoverability Code Change Request*; AFTO Form 22, *Technical Order System Publication Improvement Report and Reply*; and NGB Form 6, *Suggestion Program*. Ideas are submitted to the unit Gold Manager who will create a tracking record for the new Gold Proposal. Circuit card proposals requiring AFTO Forms 135 will be routed to the appropriate Lead Wing for approval, all others will be forwarded to the ANG Gold Program Management Officer.

3.1.1. Gold Program Information. Information is shared through, but not limited to the ANG World Wide Web site, message traffic, technical order changes and Repair Initiative Conferences (RICs).

3.2. **(Added) (ANG). Initiative Evaluation.** The process evaluator is anyone determined by the unit Gold Manager to be the most qualified individual to properly assess the Gold Proposal.

3.2.1. Evaluator Actions. The evaluator determines if need exists and sends item to appropriate repair shop for evaluation. Repair shop is any base activity capable of providing maintenance support for Gold Proposals.

3.2.1.1. Evaluator will:

- * Evaluate repair capability in relation to available technical data, tools, test equipment, training, and/or parts required for item repair.
- * Assist repair shop in obtaining required technical data, equipment and parts to support the evaluation process.
- * Notify Gold Manager when evaluation is complete.
- * Ensure all supply DIFM and tracking requirements are maintained.
- * Consult with contracting office to seek off-base sources if no on-base capability exists.
- * Establish contracts through the unit contracting office using approved procedures, i.e., AF Form 9, *Blanket Purchase Agreements (BPA)*.
- * Provide Gold Manager with status of item.

3.3. **(Added) (ANG). Initiative Approval.** After thoroughly evaluating a Gold Proposal and finding it worth pursuing, the Gold Manager ensures a comprehensive package is submitted in accordance with general technical order

guidance. Identify on the 135 "This is a Gold Proposal". All research should be documented in detail to communicate the idea to the approval authority. Route AFTO Form 135, AFTO Form 22 and NGB Form 6, IAW applicable guidance. The System Program Director (SPD) has final approval authority.

3.5.1. **(Added) (ANG).** All parts in the repair cycle evaluation process are monitored by the Gold Manager, ensuring accurate tracking and accountability.

3.5.2. All financial transactions, approved and proposed Gold initiatives are documented by the unit level Gold Manager.

3.5.3. All unit level Gold Program requirements, equipment, and additional personnel are unit funded.

3.6. **(Added) (ANG).** Gold Manager:

3.6.1. Is the unit level point of contact who monitors all initiatives.

3.6.2. Establishes tracking record of gold proposal and follows status of repair actions.

3.6.3. Assigns all actions, interfaces with unit personnel, ANGRC Gold Program Manager and Lead Wing personnel of same or other MDSs.

3.6.4. Functions as the unit OPR for RICs.

3.6.5. Coordinates with supply and budget analyst for accurate accounting of Gold Program expenditures.

7.8. **(Added) (ANG).** Gold Proposal. Any initiative which meets the ANG Gold Program objective.

7.9. Repair Initiative Conference (RIC). Collective meeting of aircraft maintainers and Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) representatives to share ideas for improving aircraft systems repair.

7.10. Lead Wing. A unit designated by ANGRC/LGMM to be the focal point for standardization and evaluation throughout ANG units for maintenance repair initiatives. Unit also assumes authority for AFTO Form 135 under this program.

7.11. Tracking Record. An information folder containing all pertinent information related to a Gold Proposal.

DONALD W. SHEPPERD
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